demand, the frequency of this flight was reduced to twice a week w.e.f. Ist November, 2001. Subsequently the airlink between Raipur to Jabalpur had to be withdrawn *w.e.f.* 25th March, 2002 due to continued poor loads, however, link between Jabalpur-Delhi was maintained by operation of thrice a week Domier service on the route Delhi-Gwalior-Jabalpur and return.

Raipur continuer to be linked with Delhi by a daily Boeing 737 on the route Delhi-Nagpur-Raipur and return.

Upgradation of Aircrafts in I.A.

1347. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:
SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a requirement of upgrading the current fleet of aircrafts under the Indian Airlines;

(b) if so, the what extent and the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) when the aircrafts were upgraded last time?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) The Board of Directors of Indian Airlines had in March, 2002 approved a proposal for acquisition of 43 aircraft at a net project cost of Rs. 10,089 crores for replacement of existing fleet of Boeing 737 and Airbus A-300 and for augmentation of capacity during the period 2003-04 to 2007-08. The Project Report submitted by indian Airlines is under active consideration of the Government.

(d) The last upgradation of fleet carried out by Indian Airlines was during the period 1989—94 by induction of 30 Airbus A-320 aircraft.

New Legislation on Airport Security

1348. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that provisions made in the Civil Aviation Act to check security lapses at various airports through out the country are not effective;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to bring any other legislation on airport security; and

(c) if so, by when?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTERY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) There is no Civil Aviation Act. At present, security offences are dealt with as per relevant provisions of different status, including Aircraft Act, 1934, and Aircraft rules, 1937.

(b) No, final decision has been taken regarding further legislation on the subject.

(c) Does not arise

Planes taken on Rent

1349. SHRI J. CHITHARANJAN:
SHRI V.V. RAGHAVAN:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry of Civil Aviation had taken steps to increase the number of planes used by the AI and IA during 1998-99, 1999-2000, 2000-2001 and 2001-2002;

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard;

(c) whether the Ministry has taken the route of taking planes on rent; and

(d) if so, the number of planes taken on rent during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (d) An in-House Expert Committee has been constituted to develop Air India's fleet Plans for the next five years. The Expert Committee is also required to determine the new generic aircraft type in terms of required capacity and range and the number of aircraft units to be inducted for fleet replacement and fleet expansion. The Board of Directors of Indian Airlines had approved a proposal for acquisition of 43 aircraft at a net project cost of Rs. 10,089 crores. A Project Report has been submitted to the Government for approval. Subject to the Government approval, these aircraft would be inducted in a phased manner and deployed on the existing domestic/ international network of Indian Airlines. Air India and Indian Airlines have